

TWO NEGRO BRUTES ATTEMPT RAPE ON TWO WHITE GIRLS

Attack Made Upon Daughters of Judge S. P. Williams of Near Town. Negroes Enter Girls' Bedroom. Frightened Away by Screams of Victims. Both Brutes Arrested and Jailed. No Violence Attempted.

The long expected has happened at last.

It was inevitable. That it did not happen sooner is little less than miraculous.

Wherever there is a gathering together of strange, stray negroes from every quarter, attracted by the freedom and equality they have been shown in Pemiscot county, the only question is: Who will the victim be, and when?

Rape upon white women is just as peculiarly a negro crime as cannibalism was their religious feast before specimens of the race were captured wild in the jungles of Africa by the white man and their civilization attempted.

The voluptuous passions of rape can no more be civilized out of the negro than can the overpowering love for blood from the slain lamb be trained out of the Bengal tiger.

And it is far more safe for the white man to leave the female members of his family unprotected in the midst of the savagery of the wild-est frontier than to leave them unguarded where the black beast prowls day and night in Pemiscot county, as he now does in unmolested and unrestrained freedom. This is said both because it is a warning and is true.

These are the savages that have been brought among us in droves and herds in recent years; the savages for whom at the white man's expense churches and school houses have been built, and for which we are taxed to pay. On top of all this, they are the same beasts that go to the polls on election day and with their multitude of ignorant votes rape the ballot box, thereby disfranchising the white majority, from whom, like vampires, they have drawn their sustenance and freedom.

Was a white man's fate, in a supposedly white man's country, ever more cruel and unjust?

After this, we think, not entirely out of place prelude, let the two negro brutes tell their own story. Here is their statement, signed by themselves and witnesses:

We, Johnnie Clayton and Pearl Lasley, colored, make the following statement of our own free will and accord:

On the 29th night of August, 1922, we stayed together at the home of Pearl Lasley. A. about eleven o'clock of said night we went to the home of S. P. Williams, a white man, in Hayti township, Pemiscot county, Missouri, and took the nails out of a screen which was on the window, then took the screen out of the window, and we both crawled through the window into the house and into the room occupied by Edna Erwin and Helen Williams, two unmarried white ladies, 18 and 19 years old respectively. While in the house and room of the aforesaid Edna Erwin and Helen Williams we attempted to get the bed covering off of the aforesaid Edna Erwin and Helen Williams for the purpose of attacking the aforesaid ladies, our objective being (language used omitted) against the will or without the knowledge of the aforesaid Edna Erwin and Helen Williams.

The young ladies were awakened by the movement of the covers and immediately cried out for their father, S. P. Williams, who was sleeping in an adjoining room. Upon their outcry we, Johnnie Clayton and Pearl Lasley, ran from the house and from there to the home of Pearl Lasley, where we spent the remainder of the night.

This statement is made of our own free will and accord, and without the promise of leniency, or without the use of coercion from the ones

to whom this statement is made and in whose presence the same is signed.

This the 30th day of August 1922.

JOHNNIE CLAYTON.
PEARL LASLEY.
Witnesses: J. E. DUNCAN
S. P. OATES
J. M. ARGO
B. F. ALLEN,
Justice of Peace.

Little else is left to tell, except minor details. In their statement the negroes confess their guilt, and did so without showing the least fear or regret.

The only reason their attempt was not made complete was because the girls screamed when awakened, and their father came to their rescue, frightening the black wretches away.

S. P. Williams is a pioneer citizen of Pemiscot county, and at one time, years ago, was presiding judge of the county court. His first wife, long since dead, was a daughter of Dr. Granville M. Hayes, founder of Hayti.

Helen, one of the girls, is Judge Williams' daughter by a former marriage, and Edna Erwin a daughter of his present wife, by a former marriage. Both are highly respectable young ladies.

Judge Williams, after being a non-resident of the county for several years, removed here again last fall. At present he lives on the road just across the drainage ditch, almost in the edge of town.

One of the negroes lives on the Parks place, the other on the Taylor farm. The girls knew the negroes, and when they were arrested and brought before them, readily identified them.

Constable Sid Oates made the arrests Wednesday about noon, the crime having been committed the night before. The blacks did not resist, and made no effort to escape, evidently regarding lightly the heinous crime they had attempted or, in the full letter of the law, had actually committed. The prisoners were brought before Esq. B. F. Allen, who advised that the proper and safest place for the accused would be the county jail, to which the officers carried them without unnecessary delay.

The outcome of the case will be watched with considerable interest. If these two fiends are not given the maximum punishment the law provides, it will stand out as an incentive for an outraged community to handle such criminals differently in the future, for black devils cannot lay hands on white women's throats, as was done in this case, and escape their dues.

The negroes were not in the least frightened. They looked and talked impudent, as if to say, "When we get out of this, we will see you again."

YOUTH MURDERED IN HOLDUP; ARREST TWO

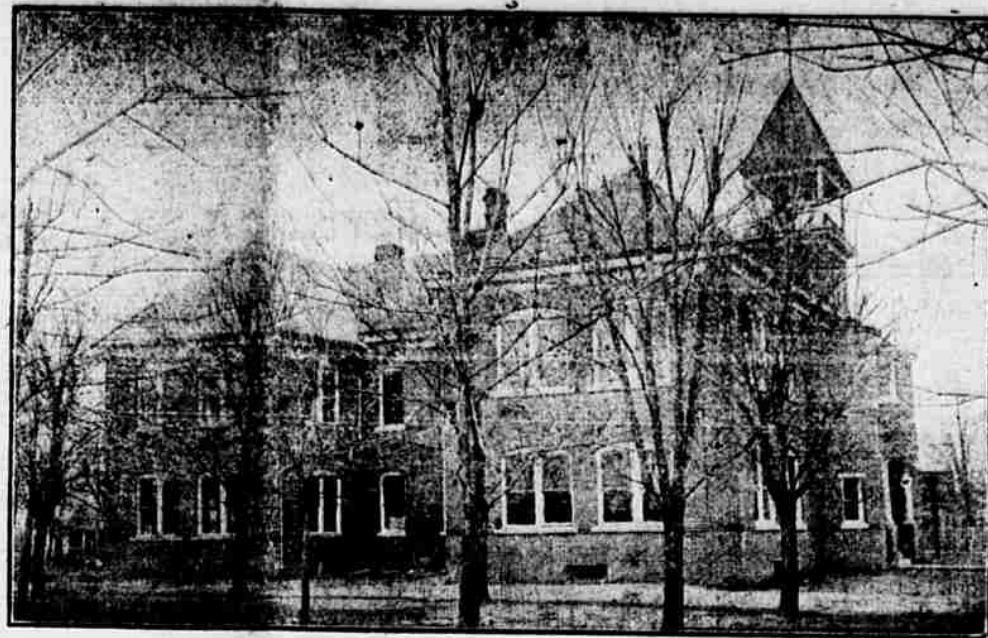
Louis Reynolds Victim of Paragould Robbery Attempt.

Paragould, Ark., Aug. 27.—Louis Reynolds, 23, employed at the Ideal Ice Cream Company, was shot and killed last night in a holdup here, a short distance from the business district of the city. The young man was en route to his home and was within a block of his residence when two boys stepped from behind a tree.

A gun was pressed against Reynolds' body and the weapon, it is believed, was unintentionally discharged. A brother and a companion were with the murdered youth. Not a word was spoken prior to the tragedy, and the murderers immediately made their escape.

Roy Boone and Walter Harrison, each about 20 years old, were arrested upon suspicion, as they left the city on a freight train at 5 o'clock this morning, and are being held for examination. They were taken to Jonesboro for safekeeping.

—Renew your Herald subscription



GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Last week we printed a cut of Hayti High School, giving the names of those composing the faculty. This week we show a picture of our Grade School, the following being the faculty:

C. O. Raine, Principal departmental; Mrs. Emma Reinhard, departmental; Mrs. Atha Hooker, departmental; Miss Nettie Gaither, fifth grade; Miss Nell Waltrip, fourth grade; Miss Edith Davis, third grade; Miss Algene Ross, second grade; Mrs. Leanova Condit, primary; Miss Erma Pickens, primary.

EXTRA---Saturday Morning

HAYTI BOY KILLED IN FRISCO WRECK

Several From Caruthersville and Steele Reported Injured.
Train 805 Plunges Through Trestle 100 Miles South of St. Louis Friday Morning.

Shamel Yearta, a Hayti boy, is reported killed in the Frisco passenger train 805 wreck which occurred Friday morning at 4 o'clock, three hours late, as several of the passenger coaches plunged through a trestle weakened by a washout at Star Landing, between Wittenberg and Station Seventy-Six, 100 miles south of St. Louis.

It seems that young Yearta was not killed outright, but later died in a St. Louis hospital, where he was carried along with about 35 other seriously injured passengers. Among the injured there is said to be several from Caruthersville, but at the time of going to press, Saturday morning, this cannot be verified.

Shamel Yearta was about 19 years old and lived with his father and grandmother, Mrs. Shouse, in this city. He was one of the Hayti High School boys and had for several years been assistant operator at the Empress Theater. To make matters more sad, Shamel was returning from a visit to his mother, who is in a hospital at Farmington.

Sam Lippard was engineer on the wrecked train, but neither he nor his fireman were seriously injured.

The trestle spanned a small creek and the scene of the wreck was near the Mississippi river. The locomotive and first baggage car had passed over the trestle when the second baggage car went through into the creek about ten feet below.

The second baggage car pulled the third coach, a combination mail car and smoker, after it, and the combination car went on top of the second baggage car at one end.

The locomotive turned over, on the side toward the Mississippi, and the first baggage car, which was pulled back by the second, turned over on the side toward the bluffs.

The second baggage car, on which the combination car was piled, was reported to be lying in several inches of water. The rear of the combination car was still on the sunken framework of the trestle.

None of the passengers in the steel coaches were injured in any way.

The train consisted of the three forward cars named, a chair car, a club car, with restaurant and parlor space and three sleepers.

Capt. C. O. Raine of Hayti was on the wrecked train. He assisted in caring for the dead and injured, and came on to his home here, but returned to his company, which is encamped at Moberly, on this (Saturday) morning's train.

Capt. Raine did not recognize Yearta, which gave rise to hope that the report of his death might be erroneous. But later reports seem to confirm the truth, and Bill Yearta, the boy's father, left this morning for St. Louis.

The Missouri Herald being a day late is publishing this report as a last minute extra.

TWO KILLED AUTO SPEED- ING IN OSCEOLA CAR

Joe Silverfield, Osceola Man, Plunges Car Into Concrete Bridge—He and His Aunt are Killed.

Blytheville Courier: Friday Joe Silverfield of Osceola was killed and his aunt, Mrs. Carrie Strauss of Monroe, La., sustained injuries from which she died, as a result of an auto accident Friday night of last week near Marion, on the new pike, when Silverfield plunged his machine into a concrete bridge with great force.

Other members of the party were Miss Ethel Wienberg of Blytheville, sister of Mrs. Walter Rosenthal, who was the most fortunate of the party, though she was badly bruised and lacerated. She received an ugly gash requiring three stitches on her lower lip, most of her teeth loosened and she was bruised about the body and arms.

Jack and Clifford Strauss were badly bruised and for a time thought to be seriously injured, as was Jessie Silverfield. Both Silverfield and Mrs. Strauss were caught under the car when it turned over. Silverfield died en route to a Memphis hospital and Mrs. Strauss died Saturday.

Silverfield was a young business man of Osceola and recently purchased a car which he delighted to drive at a dangerous speed. He was driving this ill-fated car when he met his death. It is said a danger signal is near the bridge, but he evidently failed to see it in his speeding.

KILLIAN ACQUITTED.

After hearing the evidence and the argument in the case of William (Bud) Killian, charged with killing a tenant on one of his farms last spring, it took the trial jury less than one hour to bring in a verdict of acquittal.

The case was one of change of venue from New Madrid to this county, and set for hearing at the present term of circuit court at Caruthersville. Monday morning of this week it was taken up, the jury secured, and by Tuesday morning all the evidence was in and the argument commenced.

Mr. Killian plead self-defense, which pleading was strongly sustained by the testimony. Those who heard the whole of the evidence predicted that the jury could do nothing but what it did do—render a verdict in Mr. Killian's behalf.

Every inch of the ground was fought to the last ditch on both sides.

Attorney Massengill of New Madrid county represented the State, being assisted by B. A. McKay of Caruthersville, E. F. Sharp of Marston and J. F. Fulbright of Doniphan. Mr. Killian was represented by Ward & Reeves of Caruthersville and Gallivan & Finch of New Madrid.

The trial jury was composed of: Bob Wall, J. W. McAllister, George Garrett, Henry Morgan, B. B. Sanders, Fred Franklin, Huey Michie, E. C. Spear, R. L. Simmons, C. L. Kyle, W. W. Corbett Jr. and J. M. Waller.

FARM BUREAU SPEAKING.

The Farm Bureau speaking and picture show at the High School auditorium last night was an occasion of both pleasure and profit for all who attended.

The meeting held here last night was one of a series which have been held in various parts of the county during the past week, the object being to improve the organization, which, we understand has met with good results.

Mr. J. H. Miller of the College of Agriculture made a very interesting address. Mr. Miller is very enthusiastic as to the possibilities of the Farm Bureau, believing it the best organization the farmers have ever attempted. He considers it already a proven success, and advises all farmers to join and receive its benefits.

Mr. Miller is also an old newspaper man and at present owns a paper at Lees Summit.

Being unable to have a representative present last night, and as no one interested has seen fit to furnish particulars, we are unable to make this report more interesting or lengthy.

METHODIST CHURCH.

The Sunday school hour is 10:00 a. m. Sunday morning the classes will be readjusted and re-formed. There will be three new classes and four new teachers, Mesdames Dunklin, Helm, Reinhard and Reeves. The young business men's class will be formed at this hour. A large class is pledged to be present and start as charter members.

The new ward leaders are to be announced.

Sunday begins the special September rally at this church.

Mr. Culbertson will have for his theme at the morning worship hour "When They Prayed," and in the evening a special sermon for the young business men of Hayti, "Christian Patriotism."

The choir is rehearsing this week and will lead in the devotional singing at both worship hours.

The Epworth League, Miss Erma Pickens, president, will meet at 6:45 p. m., to start their fall and winter devotions. Let all the young people be present at the opening meeting.

Our motto for the fall and winter will be: "Something worth while doing all the time at this church."

We stand for good citizenship, a clean, live town, and everybody active, useful and happy. We invite co-operation.

Tom Lewis of Braggaoocio, after his recent trip around the world, as reported in these columns from California last week, passed through this city Saturday en route to Wolf Bayou on a fishing outing. Tom says there are more fish in Missouri waters than in any waters he saw, according to square acreage, not excepting the sea, where Parson Jonah got mixed up with the whale, or rather, inside the whale, as the story is told.

Blair Buckley and wife returned Sunday evening from Lamar, Ark., after spending several days with relatives there. They also visited Hot Springs for a couple of days, returning by way of Memphis and spending a day and night there. Mrs. J. T. Buckley, their mother, who accompanied them on the trip, which they made by auto, remained over at Lamar, where she will spend some time with her mother, who resides at that place.

Mrs. J. E. McFall was called to Piggott, Ark., last Saturday on account of the death of her mother, Mrs. Finis Varner, which occurred at about 8:30 a. m. Funeral services were held in Kennett Monday at 11:30, interment taking place there. Mr. McFall attended the funeral and returned with his wife Monday afternoon.

Miss Lois Brown, teacher in the Concord school, visited homefolks in this city last Saturday.